

Message Text

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TAGS: MASS, MILI, KS, US

SUBJECT: ROK MEDIA REPORT LANCE MISSILES SLATED FOR KOREA

REF: SEOUL 692

1. ORIENT PRESS STORY MAY HAVE BEEN BASED ON EITHER OR BOTH OF FOLLOWING SOURCES AND STATEMENTS:

A. FROM FY 1977 ANNUAL DEFENSE DEPARTMENT REPORT, CHAPTER III, THEATER NUCLEAR FORCES, PAGE 105 - QUOTE:

ARMY GROUND FORCE BATTLEFIELD SUPPORT SYSTEMS CAN PROVIDE NUCLEAR STRIKES NEAR THE FORWARD EDGE OF THE BATTLE AREA. THEY CONSIST OF TACTICAL MISSILES (LANCE), ROCKETS (HONEST JOHN), AND CANNON ARTILLERY (155MM AND 8-INCH). THE U.S. WILL COMPLETE ITS PLANNED DEPLOYMENT OF LANCE
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LAUNCHERS AND MISSILES IN FY 1977. MOST OF THESE LANCE

LAUNCHERS WERE DEPLOYED WITH U.S. FORCES IN EUROPE AS LONGER-RANGE, MORE ACCURATE, AND MORE FLEXIBLE REPLACEMENTS FOR HONEST JOHN AND SERGEANT LAUNCHERS. TWO LANCE BATTALIONS WILL BE BASED IN THE U.S. IN ADDITION, WE WILL CONTINUE TO PROVIDE LANCE AS A REPLACEMENT FOR SERGEANT AND SOME HONEST JOHN LAUNCHERS IN ALLIED FORCES. UNQUOTE

--- B. FROM STATEMENT BY CHAIRMAN, JCS, TO CONGRESS ON DEFENSE POSTURE OF THE US FOR FY 1977, THEATER NUCLEAR FORCES, PAGE 71 - QUOTE:

THE SOVIET UNION HAS DEPLOYED A LARGE NUMBER OF NUCLEAR-CAPABLE TACTICAL MISSILES AND ROCKETS PRIMARILY THE SCUD, A SHORT-RANGE (85-160NM) TACTICAL BALLISTIC MISSILE, THE FROG, A SURFACE-TO-SURFACE UNGUIDED ROCKET AND THE SCALEBOARD, A LONGER RANGE SURFACE-TO-SURFACE MISSILE.

US THEATER NUCLEAR FORCES ARE BASED PRIMARILY UPON NUCLEAR-ARMED STRIKE AIRCRAFT, TACTICAL SURFACE-TO-SURFACE MISSILES AND NUCLEAR ARTILLERY. THESE SYSTEMS ARE SUPPORTED BY DEFENSIVE SAMS AND ADMS. IMPROVED VERSIONS OF PRESENT GRAVITY BOMBS WILL BE INTRODUCED THIS YEAR. PERSHING AND LANCE ARE THE TWO PRINCIPAL TACTICAL SURFACE-TO-SURFACE MISSILES. SERGEANT AND HONEST JOHN ARE BEING REPLACED BY LANCE ALTHOUGH SOME HONEST JOHNS WILL BE RETAINED FOR THE FORESEEABLE FUTURE IN SUPPORT OF CERTAIN ALLIES. THE 8-INCH AND 155MM NUCLEAR ARTILLERY PROJECTILES MAKE UP THE NUCLEAR ARTILLERY STOCKPILE. UNQUOTE. INGERSOLL

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